**Introductory Autobiography**

**Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Your first writing assignment is an autobiographical essay in which you will introduce yourself to me. You should divide your paper into **five** paragraphs as shown below. Each paragraph must contain **a minimum of five sentences**, and each paragraph must include a topic sentence and a concluding sentence. Please proofread your paper carefully and make necessary corrections before you turn it in. Since this is your first writing assignment, think of this as an opportunity to impress me with your writing.

This is a 75-point assignment and will be graded as follows:

* Length (25 total points) – Each paragraph will be worth five points. If a paragraph has fewer than five sentences, you will lose one point per sentence.
* Grammar/Usage (25 total points) – Each paragraph will be worth five points. For each error, you will lose a point, but you cannot lose more than five points per paragraph. Make sure you have correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, etc.
* Content (25 points) – Each paragraph will be worth five points. Each paragraph has a specific topic. You should make sure each paragraph stays on topic.

Paragraph 1: This is the basic “who are you” information. Give the basic personal information about yourself, you family, where you live, etc.

Paragraph 2: What are your hobbies or interests? What do you enjoy doing during your free time?

Paragraph 3: Discuss your educational experiences. What grades do you usually make? What is your favorite/least favorite subject? What are your study habits?

Paragraph 4: The topic of this paragraph is your choice. Possible suggestions could be any weird habits you have, any fears you have, any “special” talents you have, etc.

Paragraph 5: Answer the age-old question: What do you want to be when you grow up? What are your goals or dreams?

So Who is Mrs. Vest?

December 21, 1966, was a cold Wednesday. It was also the day I entered this world. I was born in Huntsville, AL, but when my mom and I were discharged from the hospital, we went home to Oakman, AL. This is my mom’s hometown, and it is where I spent most of my life until I married. Shortly after I was born, my mom filed for divorce from my biological father. I did not meet him until I was seventeen. Just before my second birthday, my mom married the man who would adopt me and become my dad. I have an older half-sister on my biological father’s side, and I have a younger half-brother, but we were raised together, so I don’t really consider him a “half”. I had a typical childhood filled with typical childhood adventures.

While I don’t really have “hobbies”, I do have a variety of interests. One of my favorite things to do is watch college football, particularly Alabama football. If given the choice to shop or watch football, I will choose football 99.9% of the time. I also enjoy reading. If I don’t have a book to read, I feel lost. Reading lets me “escape” from reality. Another interest is hanging out with family and friends. Since most of my family lives three hours away, I cherish the time I do get to spend with them. These are just a few of the things I enjoy doing in my free time.

Educationally, I would describe myself as a good student. I made mostly A’s with a few B’s scattered here and there. The exception was any subject related to math. If I made a B in a math class, it was cause for celebration. Most of my math grades were C’s, and I once had a D. I learn best by listening and taking good notes (which I did not do in math classes). When I was in high school, I did not really **have** to study, and that hurt me when I went to college. After a horrible freshman year, I had to refocus and teach myself good study habits. Fortunately, I did, but the damages to my GPA had been done. It embarrasses me to say my final GPA at the end of my undergraduate career was a 2.632.

When I was in third grade, I had a pen pal from England. Over the course of about five or six years, we wrote each other hundreds of letters. He would send me postcards from different places in England, and over time, I fell in love with the country. One of my dreams is to travel to England. I would love to be able to spend a summer living there and visiting all of the places I have studied.

I’m still trying to decide what I want to be when I grow up. I kid; I kid! My goal is to retire in May 2017. My husband and I are not from this area, so we plan to retire closer to our hometowns. I hope to be able to build a small cabin and spend more time with my family. As I have gotten older, I realize how brief life really is, and I want to take advantage of every opportunity I have to show the people close to me how important they are to me.